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Country - France  
Subject - Aviation Development: the Ledue -021  
Place Acquired - [REDACTED] 25X1A6a  
Date Acquired - [REDACTED]  
Date of Information - Mid-June 1953  
S [REDACTED]

25X1X6

1. The Ledue-021 is the third and latest in the series of ramjet prototypes developed by Rene Ledue under the sponsorship of the French Air Ministry. It is undergoing initial flight tests at the Bretigny test center.
2. Most specifications of the Ledue-021 are secret. It is reported to weigh about five tons (metric). It has five burner stages and is expected to reach about Mach .95 in horizontal flight. The cockpit is unusual in that it is placed forward of the air intake and is jettisonable in flight. The pilot sits in a reclining position with his legs stretched out straight before him. The design permits maximum visibility for him.
3. The Ledue-021 is launched in the air from the back of a Languedoc carrier plane. Its tandem landing gear and wingtip landing skates are retractable. The wings are almost straight, with wing tip fuel tanks.
4. Rene Ledue is working on a fourth ramjet prototype which is expected to be supersonic.

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